



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Pair Sentenced For Violent Robberies of Los Angeles Transit Passengers

A man and a woman who were part of a so-called "party crew" that attacked and robbed transit passengers in Los Angeles entered no contest pleas yesterday and were immediately sentenced, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's announced.

The pair were among seven defendants charged in three separate cases involving a group comprised of 100 suspected members that called itself "Tag Team."

Johnshenae Smith (2/29/92) pleaded no contest to one count each of first-degree and second-degree robbery and was sentenced to 10 years in prison, while Lelon Flowers (dob 9/23/92) pleaded to one count of second-degree robbery and admitted to a special allegation that he used a deadly weapon, a hammer. Flowers was given a three-year prison term in case BA421141.

Deputy District Attorney Casey Higgins said the party crew targeted passengers on Metro trains and robbed them. Smith and Flowers were part of the group who assaulted a man in his 20s at a train station on Jan. 20, 2014. Smith pushed the man to the ground and Flowers struck the victim twice with a hammer, the prosecutor added. The man's cell phone and wallet were taken.

About 20 minutes later, the group attacked a woman, also in her 20s, on a Red Line train and stole a gold and diamond necklace, the prosecutor said.

Three others previously each pleaded no contest to one count of robbery and were sentenced to a year in county jail and placed on probation for five years.

Two others also pleaded no contest to a robbery charge. QMariae Brackens (dob 3/4/96) was sentenced in October to a year in county jail and placed on probation for five years in case BA424025. Shabritney Ammons (dob 12/7/94) also was sentenced in October to more than eight months in jail and put on probation for five years in case BA426523.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Transit Services Bureau.

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**[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety.